



## South Carolina

### Myrtle Beach Bombing and Gunnery Range

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#### ***Facility and Location***

The Myrtle Beach Bombing and Gunnery Range (MBBGR) complex contains a Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) totaling 2,020 acres. In March 1942, Army troops arrived at Myrtle Beach to establish the MBBGR complex at the municipal airport and surrounding area. The complex consisted of nine separate areas totaling 100,309 acres. The subject FUDS parcels were at the north and south ends of the airfield. The northern 750 acre FUDS served as a flight corridor for the airfield and had no munitions and explosives of concern use. The southern FUDS parcel, a rectangular strip between Highway 17 and the ocean, consisted of two air-to-ground (ATG) gunnery ranges: N-25 and P-24. It appears one or both of the ranges were also referred to as Range 16 and as Floral Beach Gunnery Range or the Floral Beach Small Arms Range (documentation is contradictory). All individual tracts were disposed of by 1949.

The Army used the beach FUDS area for ATG gunnery and small arms training. Reportedly, the small arms range area consisted of approximately 560 acres of rolling timberland sloping to sand dunes and the ocean. Aerial imagery suggests that only the beachfront portions had targets placed on them and the timbered areas were safety zones. Small arms included: .30 caliber carbine, .45 caliber pistol, .45 caliber Thompson submachine gun, and skeet. The reviewed documents did not indicate a layout for the small arms ranges. The Army also used larger caliber, anti-tank ammunition on the air-to-ground ranges.

In December 1945, an estimate of the contamination on range 16 included .30 caliber and .50 caliber and 20mm, 37mm, and 75mm ammunition. Another document indicates that N-25 (Tracts 1-B-2 and 1-B-3) was used as an ATG gun range.

#### ***Media Sampled and Findings***

**Surface Water** — In 2007, four of four samples detected perchlorate at 0.02 ppb.

#### ***Appropriate Actions***

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.